

Man Suspected of Calling on Elwell Just Before Slaying Maintains Silence

ELWELL CASE SUSPECT MUM

Man Believed to Be Early Caller Blocks Probe With Silence.

NEW YORK, July 23.—The authorities have "more than a suspicion," as to the identity of the man who called on Joseph B. Elwell early on the morning of June 11, when he was shot to death. The murder inquiry, however, has been halted, according to Assistant District Attorney John T. Dooling, because the caller has absolutely refused to talk.

Mr. Dooling said yesterday: "This man undoubtedly has a reason for his repeated denial that he was in Elwell's home on the murder morning. I think, however, we shall find a way to make him talk."

Society circles today are gossiping over the seizure of a 45-caliber automatic Colt army revolver, owned by William Mayhew Washburn, husband of Mrs. Elizabeth Clarkson Washburn, which was turned over to Mr. Dooling by Mr. Washburn and the latter's attorney, Harold A. Content, yesterday. Mrs. Washburn is the young woman who received a \$200 check as a wedding present from Elwell on the morning of her marriage, October 29 last.

Mr. Dooling said last night that Mrs. Washburn and her husband had informed him that the check was returned to Elwell, adding:

"Elwell's check, Mrs. Washburn said, was deposited in her husband's account at the time of its receipt. Bank records bear out the accuracy of her recollections upon this point. The same records show that Mr. Washburn's bank paid out a \$200 check on January 7, 1920."

"Mr. Washburn did not know Mr. Elwell. When he and his wife returned from their wedding trip to Asheville, N. C., and went over the presents, they decided it would be better not to accept the gift from Elwell. The check must have been returned prior to January 7, although Mr. Washburn unfortunately has been unable to locate his check stubs or canceled checks."

Mr. Dooling said the "gossip" letter written to Mrs. Washburn, then Miss Betty Clarkson, and forwarded by her to Elwell, was received by Mrs. Washburn in the spring of 1918. Pressed for the name of the author of the letter, Mr. Dooling said:

"You won't get that from me."

Later he said it was a letter from a

WILLIAM K. VANDERBILT, of New York, who died at his Paris home yesterday. He was seventy years old and had been ill since last April 15. Of late years he had spent much of his time in France racing his string of thoroughbreds.



"School teacher in the Middle West."

Mr. Washburn's 45 army revolver and a number of cartridges were found in the room occupied by him at his mother's home. Mr. Dooling sent the revolver to police headquarters for expert examination.

The assistant district attorney said Mr. Washburn told him he was not on the roof of the New Amsterdam Theater the night of June 10-11. In his wife's party, said Mr. Washburn, were Mr. and Mrs. F. A. B. Washburn, his brother and sister-in-law, and a man friend. He said, according to Mr. Dooling:

"My wife joined the party on the spur of the moment. I was not at home when she left. When I got back I found a note from her. I saw her when she came in."

Mr. Dooling said this checked up in every detail with Mrs. Washburn's story. She said her husband was at home and in their room until after 9 o'clock on the morning of June 11.

VANDERBILT TO HAVE N. Y. RITES

Millionaire, Who Died in Paris, To Be Buried in Family Plot.

PARIS, July 23.—Many messages of condolence over the death of William K. Vanderbilt were received by the family from the United States today. Funeral services will be conducted on Monday at the American church, but later the body will be sent to New York for interment in the family plot.

Mr. Vanderbilt, who was seventy years of age, had suffered from angina pectoris for several months, and his death was not unexpected. Colonel Gross, family physician for many years, had stated yesterday that the aged capitalist could not survive more than twelve hours. Mrs. Vanderbilt, her two sons, Harold and William K. Vanderbilt, Jr., and her daughter, the Duchess of Marlborough, were at the bedside when the end came.

The Duchess of Marlborough and Harold arrived from London yesterday morning in an airplane, in response to a hasty summons from Mrs. Vanderbilt.

Colonel Gross, while admitting that the ailment might permit Mr. Vanderbilt to cling to life five or six hours longer, frankly told the family the sands of his patient's life were running out with resistless swiftness.

RECONCILED WITH WIFE.

Mr. Vanderbilt had been unconscious since yesterday. Four nurses worked over him in relays, under the supervision of Mrs. Vanderbilt.

From intimate friends of the family it was learned that a complete reconciliation took place Wednesday, as soon as it was realized that the end was near. While apparently on the best of terms, those in the "inner circle" had known for a long time that the couple lived more or less apart.

William Kissam Vanderbilt, one of America's foremost financiers and sportsmen, was the son of William H. Vanderbilt and grandson of Commodore Vanderbilt. He was born at the home of his father, New Dorp, Staten Island, December 12, 1849. His early education was received from private tutors, and later he was sent to Geneva, Switzerland, where he remained several years, completing his studies.

Returning to this country, his training for the railroad business began. He was placed in the office of C. C. Clark, treasurer of the Hudson River Railroad. He progressed through various clerical grades until he became vice president of the New York Central and Hudson River Railroad, where he remained from 1877 to 1883.

IN MANY CORPORATIONS. He was then elected president and chairman of the board of the New York, Chicago and St. Louis Railroad. He held this post until 1898. In the same period he was chairman of the directors of the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern.

In 1890 Vanderbilt became president and director of the New York and Harlem Railroad, and to this road he devoted the greater part of his time. His activities became extensive until he was director or managing official of the Michigan Central, Pittsburgh and Lake Erie, Cleveland, Cincinnati, Chicago and St. Louis, Lake Erie and Western, Chicago, Indiana and Southern, Chicago and North Western Railroad, Rutland Railroad, New York and Ottawa, Lake Alliance and Wheeling, and Dunkirk, Allegheny Valley and Pittsburgh Railroads.

Mr. Vanderbilt's sons, William K. Jr. and Harold, are directors in more than 150 railroads and other corporations.

The Duke of Marlborough married Vanderbilt's only daughter, Consuelo, in 1895.

In international sports Mr. Vanderbilt was a large figure. He was a member of the syndicate which built the yacht Columbia and Defender. He gave the Vanderbilt cup, for which automobile speed kings contested over Long Island roads. He was long a patron of the French turf and maintained a racing stable in France.

In the world war Mr. Vanderbilt was active in hospital and relief work abroad and in promoting the work of the Lafayette Escadrille. The rosette of the Legion of Honor was conferred upon him.

Mr. Vanderbilt was married twice. He wedded Miss Alva Smith, of Mobile, Ala., in 1874.

She divorced him on March 5, 1895. He made no defense to the suit. The papers were sealed.

A short time after the divorce was granted Mrs. Vanderbilt was married in the City Hall to Oliver H. Belmont.

FELT WEALTH A BURDEN. Mr. Vanderbilt's friends felt at that time that a second marriage was farthest from his thoughts. On August 22, 1901, as his steam yacht *Valiant* sailed into Southampton harbor he said to a friend:

"My life was destined never to be quite happy. It was laid on lines that I could foresee almost from childhood. It has left me nothing to hope for, with nothing definite to seek or strive for. Inherited wealth is a big handicap to happiness. It is as certain death to ambition as cocaine is to morality."

However, on April 23, 1903, he married Mrs. Ann Harriman Sands Rutherford in London. He went abroad last winter so ill that he was carried on board ship. He grew a little better abroad, but had an attack of heart trouble last April 15 while attending the Auteuil races.

Mr. Vanderbilt was one of the founders of the Union Club and was active also in the Knickerbocker, Racquet and Tennis, and Metropolitan, South Side, New York Yacht, Knollwood, Meadow Brook, Players' Turf, Country and Larchmont Yacht clubs.

KILLED CHASING HER HAT.

PHILADELPHIA, July 23.—Stopping from an automobile in which she was riding to chase her hat, which had blown off, Mrs. Amelia Winkler, sixty-one years old, was struck by another car and killed almost instantly yesterday.

HANGING NEAR, TRIES SUICIDE

Isaiah Fountain, Girl Assailant, Attempts to Slash Throat Hour Before Death.

EASTON, Md., July 23.—Isaiah Fountain, convicted negro assailant of Bertha Simpson, a thirteen-year-old white girl, was hanged in the corridor of the Easton jail, at 3 o'clock this morning. An hour before his execution, the negro attempted to commit suicide by slashing his throat with a safety razor blade. Investigation is being made to determine how he obtained the blade. "You are killing an innocent man," declared Fountain a moment before he dropped to his death on the gallows. The trap was sprung by Sheriff C. M. T. Soulesby precisely at 3 o'clock, and Fountain was pronounced dead from strangulation thirteen minutes later by Dr. James B. Merrick.

Fountain paid the death penalty for the attack made on Miss Simpson, April 1, 1919. He had persisted in protesting his innocence, although he had been positively identified by the girl, and the authorities are certain of his guilt.

BEGS SHERIFF TO SHOOT HIM.

Cringing in his cell at the sound of hammers and saws as carpenters were carrying out their gruesome work of building the gallows, the negro, two hours before the time set for his hanging, pleaded with Sheriff Soulesby to shoot him. "I cannot stand it," he cried. "Please shoot me, Sheriff."

Fountain unsteadily marched up the steps of the gallows. He had spent most of the early part of the night with the Rev. Abram Chase, of Trappe, and the Rev. T. H. Woodley, colored, of Easton. They appealed to him to confess if he was guilty. He said he could not confess to a crime he had not committed.

At midnight, a meal of bacon and eggs, potatoes and coffee, was brought to his cell, but Fountain ate little. He declared he could not eat, that he was too nervous. All during the day he expressed horror of death on the gallows, and as each blow of the hammers of the carpenters resounded throughout the little prison the negro shuddered.

NO RELATIVES PRESENT.

None of Fountain's relatives was present at the hanging. They refused invitations offered by Sheriff Soulesby. They notified the sheriff that they would not bury the body. After the negro's death his body was taken to his farm, where his wife and two children live, and buried before daylight behind a barn.

Fearing that the threatened mob violence would deprive them of carrying out the legal hanging, Talbot county authorities had a large detail of policemen from Baltimore and motorcycle officers from the office of Automobile Commissioner Baughman on hand. It was because of precaution against any such attempts of citizens to lynch the negro, that the gallows were built in the corridor of the jail. There were but few witnesses to the hanging.

The corridor in which Fountain was hanged is 20 feet long and 5 feet wide. The scaffold itself was 14 feet high. When Fountain stood over the trap his head nearly touched the ceiling. In cells nearby, although they could not view the gruesome hanging, were several other negroes. They too, had protested against the hanging of Fountain in the corridor, and high pitched excitement and nervousness reigned among them up to the moment of Fountain's death.

When Dr. Merrick, in low voice, announced the negro was dead the other inmates of the prison breathed a sigh of relief, and more so when his body was carried from the prison. The effect of the hanging on the prisoners as to their future actions is a matter of speculation. But it is certain they will guard against meeting such a death themselves.

WAS CONVICTED TWICE.

Fountain was twice convicted of the crime against the girl. At his first trial in Easton a few weeks after the assault occurred he was convicted by a jury and sentenced to death by Judges Adkins and Wickes. On the first night of the trial, Fountain, fearing the crowd that had gathered in front of the jail was about to lynch him, leaped from the window of the sheriff's office and escaped.

Two days later he was captured in Hartley, Del. Eugene O'Dunne, former deputy State's attorney of Baltimore, the negro's attorney, on the ground that Fountain did not then have a fair trial, appealed and the Court of Appeals granted a new trial.

The second conviction occurred in the Circuit Court of Towson, Baltimore county. The verdict was brought in by Judges Duncan, Offutt and McLane. At both trials, Fountain attempted to prove an alibi, but both times the girl identified him as her assailant.

One month ago, Fountain, with the assistance of other prisoners at the jail, sawed the bars of his cell and escaped. He was at liberty for more than a week before he was caught in a barn on the farm of Calvin Anderson, about fourteen miles north of Easton.

AWARD \$392,000 IN PAVING CONTRACTS

Corson & Gruman and Cranford Co. to Resurface Streets With Sheet Asphalt.

Contracts calling for the expenditures of \$392,000 for resurfacing streets in Washington were awarded by the District Commissioners today to Corson & Gruman, paving contractors, and the Cranford Paving Company.

These companies will resurface 64,

600 square yards of District streets; Corson & Gruman 27,000 square yards at \$3.95 cents a square yard, and the Cranford Company 37,000 at \$3.97 a square yard. Sheet asphalt will be used.

The contracts awarded comprise paving the following streets: Connecticut avenue, from Chapel road to Chevy Chase circle northwest; C street northwest, from Twelfth street to Ohio avenue; E street, northwest, from Virginia avenue to Twenty-third street; Twenty-fourth street, from K street to Virginia avenue, northwest; Nineteenth street, from E street to New York avenue, northwest; New Hampshire avenue from I street to Twenty-seventh street, northwest; Jefferson street, from K street to M street, northwest; Girard street, east of Fifteenth street, northwest; California street, from Phelps

street to Twenty-third street, northwest; Nichols avenue, southeast, from Sheridan avenue, southeast; Massachusetts avenue, southeast, from Fourteenth street to Fifteenth street; Potomac avenue, southeast, from Eleventh street to Thirteenth street; G street, southeast, from Eighth street to Ninth street; Fourteenth street northeast, from E street to G street; Thirteenth street, northeast, from C street to D street, and Fourteenth street southwest from D street to Water street.

MAY WRIGHT SEWELL, NOTED EDUCATOR, DIES

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., July 23.—May Wright Sewell, seventy-six, internationally known for her activities in educational and cultural work, died at St. Vincent's Hospital here late last night.

MOTHER OF 4, WEDDED 15 YEARS, SUES FOR DIVORCE

Mrs. Rose Berrett, wedded fifteen years, of 22 Florida avenue northeast, filed suit today for divorce from the father of her four children. She alleges non-support and cruelty.

Mrs. Berrett, who is represented by Attorney Leo A. Rover, declares that on January 15, 1915, her husband ordered her out of their home, and that they have not lived together since.

The wife says her husband, William T. Berrett, is a pipe fitter, employed at the Washington Terminal Company, and earns about \$240 a month. She gave her \$80 a month until last June, she says, but since then has refused to contribute for her maintenance. They were married at Ellicott City, Md., September 23, 1895, and have three children living.

**Last Day!—"Coliseum"—Saturday
8 A. M. to 6 P. M.—Other "HAHN" Stores Closed**

Only Ten Hours More---and Then---

"Thank You!"

—Washington's Greatest Shoe
Distribution at The

Coliseum
Ends Saturday at 6

IT'S exactly 23 days since "HAHN'S," acting for twenty overstocked Shoe Manufacturers began a distribution that has been the talk and wonder of all Washington.

Originally planned to relieve an acute situation that many shoe manufacturers found themselves facing, its purpose has been accomplished.

Nearly 80,000 Pairs of Shoes have been disposed of at prices for which a grateful public has expressed its appreciation to us over and over again. We could fill this entire paper with the complimentary things said about the sale. In fact, word-to-mouth advertising has been a far greater factor in its success than all our paid publicity.

Till 6 o'clock Saturday at the Coliseum only—Washington may take advantage of the Less-Than-Cost-To-Make Values, that remain.

WHEN the doors of the Coliseum finally close the only part of the great sale that comes to an end is the active selling of merchandise.

TO THOSE WHO BOUGHT SHOES, these sales are NOT OVER; we want everybody who purchased to know that our responsibility remains—that, while the Coliseum closes Saturday, the doors of the "HAHN" Stores are wide open to receive and adjust any deficiency or lack of service that any purchase may develop.

But we look for very few such complaints as we know that the shoes entered in these sales have been fully worthy of the backing of "HAHN'S." And many of the purchasers, who perhaps have never bought at our Stores before, will surely want to deal regularly with us the more they realize the extraordinary values they have secured.

THE "House of Hahn" again reiterates its responsibility to those who bought and thanks all who participated in this great event for their cordial support.

We Thank You!

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RELIABLE SHOES
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**Final Clearance
Women's Shoes**

\$1.95

Final one-day "WIND-UP" of all remaining Women's Shoes that have made the Coliseum the most talked about place in all Washington. Scores of attractive styles still remain—although sizes are broken in each kind. White, Black, Tan and Patent Leather "Theo" Ties, strap effects; Pumps and Oxfords.

In three great sections—at \$1.95, \$2.95 and \$3.95—shoes that you will never be able to purchase at any such prices again.

Select the style you want from the tables and our salesmen will fit you to your size as quickly as possible.

Don't Miss This Last Day

**Final Clearance
Men's Shoes**

\$4.45
\$6.00 & \$7.50

The final wind-up of the three big storefuls of Men's Shoes at the Coliseum. Oxfords and High Shoes of many different styles, makes and leathers—shoes for every sort of wear. All of them strictly reliable in quality—fully warranted by "HAHN'S." Values that you will always have to pay double these prices for or more.

\$1.50, \$2.75, \$3.45, \$3.75. **Don't Miss the Last Day!**

**Final Clearance
Children's Shoes**

About 250 pairs remaining of Misses' and Children's Strap Pumps—Boys' and Girls' high-cut Play Shoes at

Broken sizes of Boys' and Girls' good solid Barefoot Sandals and Play Oxfords at \$1.

**Saturday Last Day
"Coliseum" Only**



**BIG ONE-
DAY SALE**

Beginning at 8 a. m., Saturday morning, and continuing until 3 p. m., we are going to stage a big event by placing on sale a large variety of Men's Two-Piece Suits, Made-to-Measure, which were formerly priced at \$50, but which on Saturday will only be

\$32.50

These suitings are of all-wool material and are the best in workmanship in the city. A perfect fit is guaranteed with every suit sold.

All Good Tailors, who have the interest of their employees at heart, close at 3 p. m. on Saturdays.

FALL WEIGHTS ARE INCLUDED

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